Amendments to the Claims:

1 - 5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) A medical device for implanting in a patient, comprising:

a device body with a ~~an outer~~ surface;

an attachment region within the surface, wherein the attachment region comprises a cavity in the surface having an open end and an opposing closed end, the cavity having a base surface at the closed end and a side wall extending from the closed end to the open end ; and

a ceramic component comprising

a first porous ceramic region, and

a second porous ceramic region, wherein the second porous ceramic region is less porous than the first porous ceramic region, the ceramic component connects to the attachment region through the second porous ceramic region coupled to the base surface of the closed end, and the second porous ceramic region is positioned in between the first porous ceramic region and the base surface of the attachment region such that the first porous ceramic region and the base surface of the attachment region are located on opposite sides of the second porous ceramic region;

~~wherein the attachment region comprises an indentation in the surface~~

wherein the device is a stent.

7. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 6 wherein one or both of the porous regions releasably contains a drug.

8. (Original) The medical device of claim 7 wherein the drug comprises at least one of a smooth-muscle-cell vascular activity inhibitor, a wound healing enhancer, an agent for improving the structural properties in a vascular site, an agent for improving the elastic properties of a vascular site, an antineoplastic substance, an anti-inflammatory substance, an antiplatelet substance, an anticoagulant substance, an antifibrin substance, an antithrombin

substance, an antimitotic substance, an antibiotic substance, an antiallergy substance, an antioxidant substance, alpha-interferon, genetically engineered epithelial cells, rapamycin, actinomycin D, paclitaxel or docetaxel.

9. (Withdrawn) The medical device of claim 6 further comprising a polymer layer over the ceramic component, over a portion of the medical device not including the ceramic component, or both.

10. (Withdrawn) The medical device of claim 6 further comprising an auxiliary component with at least one auxiliary-component attachment region disposed in or on the surface of the auxiliary component and wherein the ceramic component is disposed on or within at least one auxiliary-component attachment region.

11. (Withdrawn) The medical device of claim 10 further comprising a third porous region disposed in the ceramic component wherein the third porous region is less porous than the first and wherein the ceramic component connects to at least one auxiliary-component attachment region through the third porous region.

12. (Withdrawn) The medical device of claim 11 wherein the ceramic component is fused to at least one auxiliary-component attachment region through the third porous region.

13. (Withdrawn) The medical device of claim 11 further comprising an oxide layer disposed between the third porous region and at least one auxiliary-component attachment region.

14. (Withdrawn) The medical device of claim 11 wherein the surface or auxiliary-component surface, or both, comprise a metal, glass, or ceramic.

15. (Withdrawn) The medical device of claim 14 wherein metal comprises iron, cobalt, nickel, manganese, stainless steel, tantalum, niobium, super-elastic nickel-titanium alloys, titanium, silver, gold, platinum, steel, or aluminum.

16. (Withdrawn) The medical device of claim 14 wherein glass comprises borosilicate glass, lead glass, soda glass, uranium glass, soft glass, fused quartz, or fused silica.

17. (Withdrawn) The medical device of claim 14 wherein ceramic comprises carbide ceramics, oxide ceramics, nitride ceramics, or boride ceramics.

18. (Withdrawn) The medical device of claim 14 wherein ceramic comprises titania, zirconia, hafnia, silica, alumina, silica alumina, silicon carbide, tungsten carbide, silicon boronitride, boronitride, silicon, or gallium arsenide.

19. (Withdrawn) The medical device of claim 10 wherein the auxiliary component is one of an electrode, a physical sensor, or a chemical sensor.

20. (Withdrawn) The medical device of claim 10 further comprising a polymer layer disposed over the auxiliary component, over a portion of the medical device not including the auxiliary component, or both.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously presented) The medical device of claim 6 wherein the surface of the medical device comprises plastic, metal, glass, or ceramic.

23. (Original) The medical device of claim 22 wherein metal comprises iron, cobalt, nickel, manganese, stainless steel, tantalum, niobium, super-elastic nickel-titanium alloys, titanium, silver, gold, platinum, steel, or aluminum.

24. (Withdrawn) The medical device of claim 22 wherein glass comprises borosilicate glass, lead glass, soda glass, uranium glass, soft glass, fused quartz, or fused silica.

25. (Withdrawn) The medical device of claim 22 wherein ceramic comprises carbide ceramics, oxide ceramics, nitride ceramics, or boride ceramics.

26. (Withdrawn) The medical device of claim 22 wherein ceramic comprises titania, zirconia, hafnia, silica, alumina, silica alumina, silicon carbide, tungsten carbide, silicon boronitride, boronitride, silicon, or gallium arsenide.

27. (Currently Amended) A medical device for implanting in a patient comprising:

a) a surface comprising a metal;

b) an attachment region disposed within the surface, wherein the attachment region comprises an indentation in the surface;

c) a ceramic component comprising a glass or ceramic, the ceramic component having a first porous ceramic or glass side and a second less porous ceramic or glass side, wherein the less porous ceramic or glass side of the ceramic component is fused on or within the attachment region; and

d) an oxide layer disposed on or within the attachment region between the surface of the device and the ceramic component;

wherein the medical device is a stent.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously Presented) The medical device of Claim 27 further comprising a drug releasably disposed in the first porous side.

30. – 46. (Canceled)

47. (Currently amended) The medical device of claim 6 wherein an oxide layer is disposed between the attachment region and the second porous ceramic region.

48. (Previously presented) The medical device of claim 47 wherein the oxide layer comprises an oxide of the material of which the medical device body is comprised.

49. (Previously presented) The medical device of claim 6 wherein the attachment region is created by removing some of the material from the medical device body.

50. (Previously presented) The medical device of claim 6 wherein the ceramic component comprises a compound selected from the group consisting of carbide ceramics, oxide ceramics, nitride ceramics, boride ceramics, and combinations thereof.

51. (Previously presented) The medical device of claim 6 wherein the ceramic component comprises a compound selected from the group consisting of borosilicate glass, lead glass, soda glass, uranium glass, soft glass, fused quartz, fused silica, and combinations thereof.

52. (Currently amended) The medical device of claim 6 wherein the surface of the attachment region ~~is machined to more closely~~ matches the thermal characteristics of the ceramic component.